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Jerome McCormick

People

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1969-1

## Correspondence Between Jerome McCormick and Mrs. McCormick (Mother) January 1969

Jerome McCormick

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Hotel "Le Versailles"

Villeponche 5/Mar.

Nice (06 A-M).

20/1/69.

Dear Mum,

This is just a quick note as to-day is my day off. The sun is great. We have the rally here next week so things are sure to be busy. Hope biz has been good over the Christmas. I sent a letter to Pete yesterday. In fact a lot of my time is taken up writing. Nowadays I have more people than ever to write to. after all the travelling. My French lessons started last week. The teacher is an oldish lady who graduated from Trinity, and hasn't lost the accent. She must do quite well at it here as she also teaches English and German. "I can learn any language as I know how to learn"

She told us.

I am in the process in making enquiries about the 152 exam. Its a very good qualification if I eventually wanted to teach.

But its going to be hard going even to get permission to sit the exam. The c & g. have been very helpful so have Bert.

Have to go to early mass on Sundays. The sermons are a good help in picking up words. I nearly had to laugh last Sunday, as he was going on about the 'Visions' and the crow thumping, giving a wild stroke to his chest.

The photographs taken in the kitchen didnt come out, but the others are enclosed. Hope all are in good health. Many thanks to Al for the newspapers. its amazing the information they have. Love to all. Looking forward to when. Cpro.



Hotel "Le Versailles"

Villefranch 5/Mer.

Nice (06 A-M).

France.

7/2/69.

Dear Mum,

Glad to have yours  
today. I have just written to Leo  
bumming in Haverfordwest, Wales. Am  
going to meet him there end of  
march. My departure date from  
here is set at the 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> of  
March. As I shall be hitch  
hiking all the way, at least  
two week has to be allowed.  
My route is Nice - Marseilles - Avignon,  
- Dyon. - Paris. Dieppe. - Newhaven. - London  
Haverfordwest. - Rosslare - home. staying  
at the youth-hostels all the way.  
am having a sleeping bag made here.  
so dont bother to send the other half  
of the one at home. Al should  
have a letter about my An Oise

membership card. It's impossible to  
send money out of the country.  
So if he pays the £1 for me  
and has the card sent on to  
me here everything will be o.k.  
We were busy to-day as every  
Sat. One of my jobs, was to  
open 180 oysters at a trot. Beautiful  
big ones they are, too. But we  
haven't any Guinness for them.  
The wine is inclined to be  
very alcoholic, - meths added I think.  
My friend here apparently was  
quite amazed that I get up  
early on Sun. for Mass. He is  
a member of some Protestant  
church in Scotland. Now he wants  
me to wake him in time for Mass  
in the morning. I think he is  
just homeish. We were part the  
other day and I have to carry  
my money around with me all the  
time. There must be some way of  
getting money out of the country



The banks will only take \$ as deposits. It's a fine country. The po. will on take parcels up to 2 lb. anything ~~over~~ that has to go to the railway. They spent ages looking for the forms for my parcel. Hope it all arrives O.K. and that there is no duty payable. The cheese may suffer though. One good point about the chef here is that he saves the

butter papers. He was on T.V last week giving a demo. of his skills. He is very talented, but lacks the whip hand in the kitchen. He has to resort to outbursts at times. But really everything goes very well, and I have let's hope learned a lot here. My friend Paul Stitz the retired Chef of the Savoy, has told me in a recent letter, to seek as

much varied work as possible.  
It will help in establishing  
myself in a business at a  
later time. I think both is  
the spot for me. My ideas may  
change after a while though.  
Would like to hear your views.  
I agree the delikateessen is good.  
On the continent everywhere,  
there are shops who cook food  
and serve it hot to be eaten  
at home, they also serve as  
snack bars and some restaurants  
This is my idea.

I looking forward to  
doing a real good meal  
for my 21st and finishing my  
time, in April, shall have some  
more photos next letter.  
Best love.  
Gero.